



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE deports 36 illegal aliens arrested in Fischer Homes investigation

CHICAGO — Thirty-six illegal alien workers, who were arrested in May as part of the Fischer Homes investigation, were deported to Mexico last week by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

On May 9, 2006, ICE agents arrested four supervisors of Fischer Homes Inc. and 76 illegal alien workers as they departed for job sites in Hebron, Union and Florence, Ky. The four Fischer Homes managers were subsequently indicted for harboring illegal aliens for commercial advantage or private financial gain. If convicted, they face a maximum sentence of up to 10 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both. Several contractors and contract companies that provided illegal workers for Fischer Homes construction sites were also indicted May 11 on criminal charges of harboring illegal aliens in connection with the scheme.

During the course of this investigation, ICE agents had arrested 93 illegal alien workers from: Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. These illegal aliens were subsequently charged, and in some cases have been convicted in federal court, with illegally being in the United States. Fifty-nine of the convicted illegal aliens have been deported, with 36 of these being deported to Mexico last week. An additional 22 convicted illegal aliens were released and remain under court supervision as material witnesses in the criminal case; another 12 remain in U.S. Marshals Service custody pending criminal charges.

“ICE aggressively targets those employers who knowingly employ an illegal alien workforce,” said Paul Chambers, resident agent-in-charge of the Ft. Mitchell, Ky., ICE office. “We are committed to using all our investigative tools to pursue those who take advantage of illegal labor to make a profit.”

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.